

Message Text

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63

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 EB-07 SAM-01 DHA-02 TRSE-00 /096 W

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R 121610Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9156

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3741

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MO, SS, ECON

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN DIPLOMAT COMMENTS ON KING'S SPEECH

REF: RABAT 3707

1. ALGERIAN INTERESTS OFFICER (WHO STILL HERE AWAITING
ARRIVAL OF CONSULAR OFFICER REPLACEMENT--SEE
RABAT 3103 NOTAL) MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON KING'S
BIRTHDAY SPEECH TO EMBOFF JULY 11:
--SPEECH WAS "VERY" TOUGH.
--TOUGHNESS OBVIOUSLY DUE TO GOM SETBACKS AT PORT
LOUIS AND IN ANTICIPATION PROBLEMS IN COMING INTERNATIONAL
FORUMS. OTHERWISE, HE ASKED, WHY ESCALATE RHETORIC NOW?
--KING HIMSELF WAS MORE ENGAGED THAN EVER IN HARDLINE
APPROACH TOWARD ALGERIA. IN FACT, KING HAD CO-OPTED AND
IN SOME RESPECTS EVEN SURPASSED OPPOSITION PARTY POSITIONS
ON SAHARA/ALGERIA.
--IN THIS RESPECT, ALGERIAN NOTED INTRODUCTION FOR
FIRST TIME IN SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS OF GOM CLAIMS TO
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SOUTHERN ALGERIAN TERRITORIES, WHICH ARTICLE REFERRED TO

AS "REMAINING OCCUPIED SAHARAN PROVINCES." (SEE RABAT 3647.) GOM HAD CHOSEN THIS FORMULA IN ORDER TO CONFORM TO WORDING OF OAU RESOLUTION FOR EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT WHICH, HE SAID, CALLED FOR DISCUSSIONS ON SAHARA AND MADE REFERENCE TO SELF-DETERMINATION.

2. COMMENT: CHARGE THAT KING HAD SURPASSED OPPOSITION IN BELLICOSE APPROACH IS AN EXAGGERATION. NEVERTHELESS, IN CALLING IN HIS SPEECH FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILIZATION TO FACE EXTERNAL PROBLEMS, KING MOVED TOWARD HARDER LINE OF OPPOSITION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: TEXT OF OAU RESOLUTION ON SAHARA HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED HERE. ADDRESSEE POSTS REQUESTED TO ADVISE OF ITS CONTENTS IF KNOWN.
ANDERSON

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